ANOTHER APPALLING CALAMITY.

Terrible Explosion at Lower Ravenswood, L. I.

Total Destruction of French's Ball Cartridge Factory.

TWENTY TO TWENTY-FIVE LIVES LOST.

Horrible Mutilation of the Bodies.

NAMES OF FOURTEEN OF THE SUFFERERS dre. die. die.

ing occupied as a factory for the making of ball carges at Lower Ravenswood, Long Island, blew up with an explosion that shook the houses in the neighborhood for two miles around, and breaking indows of all those buildings which were within six hundred or eight hundred feet of the place. It was rented by Mr. French, who, together with his son, are generally engaged in the building, but being at the moment otherwise occupied, happily escaped serious injury, though Mr. French, Sen., is suffering severely from contusions.

The number of persons employed is generally about thirty, being for the most part girls of the ages of ten to eighteen; but some men and youths also find work in the factory. The exact number of lives lost is now not known, for, being the afternoon of Saturday, a greater or less number than usual might have been there, according to circumstances.

The lowest estimate made by Mr. French is twenty four, and the highest made by friends of eased is about thirty. One family—the father of which is Mr. Rhine, a worthy man, and gardenes to a gentleman in the place—lost three girls; and scarcely a laboring family resides near the place that is not now wailing for the loss of some member

Our reporter was on the spot half an hour after it pocurred, and the sight of such a sickening scene he hopes to be spared again. The site of the building nding lots were covered with the debris of the building, human limbs, and fragments of machinery: here a trunkless head, there an arm, and all round blood and entrails, and shreds of clothing, all blackened and burnt so that identification is impossible. We saw a man draw from the mass the head of a little girl which he knew was that of his daughter by a bit of ribbon fastened to the hair; but any other portion of the body he would to say it was the body of his child. The house of Mr. es is a white house, about four hundred feet dislant, and against the rear of this a human arm from th boulder down was carried with force, and has left its exact imprint in blood and chare all on the angle. The windows of this house, those also of the Rev. Mr. Waite, the Episcopal minister of Ravenawood, which is next, and those of Mr. French, adjoining, have not a whole pane of glass left in them.

Most terrible of all it was to see women walls the ground, or groping among the human fragments og which they could identify and mourn over: but lime barrels, filled with a disgusting mass of human remains, black and bloody, was, in most cases, all they could indulge their frantic grief upon. About ten corpses were fitted together, either wholly or partially, and carried away on boards, followed

ecise cause of the explosion no one remains to explain. It is known, however, that the stove used for warming the building was red hot, the day being very cold; and from the highly combustible materials which were used in close proximity to it it may readily be accounted for by supposing some particle ignited on the floor, and communicating with the articles in various stages of preparation

Within a few feet of the building is a fire proof cell, in which is stored large quantities of powder; and this being within the scope of the smoke and nes of the burning ruins, no one was willing to hazard an approach to attempt to rescue the suffavors from the rules for some time after the explo-

Voyagers up the East river may remember on its has costellate granite mansion, the residence of Mr. Bedine, and adjoining Harris' landing. The scene of this fearful catastrophe was opposite this, about five hundred yards from the shore. The familles resident in the neighborhood were, for the most part, unaware of the existence of such a magazine of danger so near them, and will take effectual means to prevent the re-erection of it in that vi-

and Dr. Bayliss, that they both hastened to the snot. and did all that humanity and skill could suggest to alleviate the agonies of the sufferers. Ail, however, were past their aid but one, a man named John about thirty years of age, who was brought to the New York Hospital in the steamboat Ravenswood in so mutilated a condition that death would be but a relief. His jaw and both legs were broken, his arm fractured, and he was otherwise severely injured. He was alive last night at a late hour, but was not expected to live till this morning.

An inquest will be held by Coroner Boyd with little delay as possible; but from the fact that of all were in the building not one is left to say how it occurred but little more light is expected to

# AND THER AND STILL LATER ACCOUST.

Another reporter has returned from the sce calamity, and makes the following report:-

About ten minutes past one o'clock yesterda n the patent cartridge manufactory owned by Mr. French, at Ravenswood, Long Island, was on up, and some fifteen or twenty persons, mostly

The shock occasioned by the explosion was tre es, and was sensibly felt at a distance of six or eight miles; and during yesterday after

that an earthquake had taken place somewhere upon

The scene at Ravenswood beggars description The building occupied by Mr. French for the manufacture of French's rifle cartridges was a one-story wood building, twenty by twentyfive feet square, which was blown into fragments, and not a single stick could be found that a child could not lift.

There were about twenty persons mostly boys and females in the building, engaged in filling and packing cartridges, all of whom, with one or two exeptions, were instantly killed.

The following is a list of the killed, as far as could

- 1. Ann Burns, 25 years of age.
- Mary Hague, about 16 years of age.
   George Malcomb, about 13 years of age.
   Mary Malcomb, 18 years of age.
- John O'Brien, 13 years of age.
- John Downy, 13 years of age, supposed to have been blown to atoms, as portions of his clothing were found, but his remains could not be recog
  - 7. James Gormly, 12 years of ago
- John Riley, 10 years of age.
   Eilen McDonnell, 20 years of age.
   Matthew Hand, 15 years of age.
- 11. James Foley, 12 years of age.
- 12. Emma Ryan, 20 years of age.
- 13. Matthew Ryan, 16 years of age.

The following persons were so seriously injured that it is thought impossible for them to recover:-Andrew Carney, a Scotch boy; had a portion of

his bowels and longs blown away: he cannot survive.

John Smith, a young man, who has been in the
employment of Mr. French but two or three days, was literally blown to pieces, having his arms and legs broken, and his body and face dreadfully man cled. He was conveyed to the New York Hos

Christopher Casey, a young man, was so badly in-jured that it is considered impossible for him to re-About six o'clock last evening, soon after our re porter arrived at the scene, he saw conveyed away

bodies, which had been gat hered up in the vicinity. It is supposed that there were about twenty persons in the building, and but three were known t have been taken out slive.

we lime barrels nearly filled with fragments of

It is said that the fire originated in the northeast corner of the building, in the opposite end of the building from the stove, but from what cause is un-

There were over 50,000 ball cartridges made in the building, besides a considerable quantity of powder. The cartridges nearly all exploded, and the balls were thrown in every direction; but provientially no person out of the building was serious ly hejured. One of the balls passed through a par of glass into the library room of Mr. Bodine, a dis ance of one tighth of a mile, and shattered the

The dwelling houses within a circuit of a mile rere more or less injured, having the glass entirely broken out, and in several instances the walls were damaged. Mr. French's house, which is about thirty rods from the factory, was very much damaged; the windows and a portion of the furniture having been destroyed, and a seco d story front room was the only one which the family could occupy last night. At the time of the accident Mr. French was engaged at work in a small building some fifteen rods distant, and narrowly escaped with his life. A furnace near where be was standing was broken to pieces, and his hat was carried away and could not be found; he also received several slight bruises about the face and body from missiles, which were

We were informed by Mr. French that one of his boys, a few days since, in emptying out some kegs of powder, discovered two matches, which had been packed up with it

Persons who were in the City Hall at William: burg felt the shock, and it was the general in? pression that it was occasioned by an earthquake. The excitement in the vicinity of the casus was very great during the afternoon, and the scer I

Ravenswood, when the full particulars of this dreadful affair will be ascertained.

# ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS—THE LATEST.

Immediately after the receipt of the above communication our reporter visited the scene of the disaster, with a view to obtain further particulars. On arriving at Lower Ravenswood he was directed for further information to Mr. French, the proprietor of the ill-fated manufactory; but, after a patient search after that gentleman, he was found to be non est and it was rumored that he had abecouded, fearing some outbreak on the part of the exasperated relatives and friends of the victims. As Mr. French is the obly person who can give a full and correct list of the killed and wounded, we found it impossible to obtain full particulars at the late hour at which we visited the spot; but to-morrow we hope to be able to furnish a complete and detailed

oust one o'clock. It is said that the sound was heard at Williamsburg, a distance of several miles. The neighborhood, as may be imagined, was thrown into instant commotion, and crowds of persons hurried at once to the place. Crowds of people instantly gathered around the ruins, and the scenes that transpired are said by eye witnesses to have been truly heartrending. The building itself stood in the midst of a spacious open lot, and, to use the language of a bystander, "It was almost literally covered with fragments of uman bodies." Some of the unfortunate victims appeared to have been absolutely torn into shreds, until all form and likeness of humanity had deserted them. "On one side," said our informant, "lay a head severed from its trunk, and at a little distance lay its mutilated members. Hands, feet, and scraps of flesh, were scattered all over the lots."

Several of those touching and interesting dents which accompany every great calamity of this kind took place. Nearly all the deceased were you men or boys, and young girls; and the agon

report was current in Williamsisurg and Brooklyn | of the bereaved parents who arrived on the been perhaps all in all to them, is described as some thing frightful. Here a father searched among the muthated corpses for his son, and wept in agony at the dreadful thought that even the poor se of gazing at the lifeless lineaments of his boy was denied him; and there a mother, delirious with grief, rained showers of tears upon the remains of a child which only the true maternal heart was able to recognise. An affecting incident was told us of a poor woman, a native of Ireland, who had a son in the establishment. On hearing of the catastrophe, though old and inful scene. They told her her son was among the dead-her son, to whom she had looked for support and affection, and whom she had idolized, perhaps, as fondly as many of higher birth and larger means The spectators attempted to keep her back, but her strong love was not to be thus overcome. She forced her way until she stood in the midst of the fearfu scene, and then began her mournful search. Finally, she espied a headless trunk, with the vertebree protrading from the gory neck, and this she recognized as the sole remains of him who had been so suddenly cut down in the midst of life and health. Blackened, disfigured and mutilated, the widowed and bereaved still knew her offspring. Those who witnessed the scene say that a spectacle more harrowing, even to the coldest heart, was never witnessed.

Such scenes as this were common; probably no calamity since the dreadful steamboat explosions on the North river, has been so prolific in incidents of

Mr. French, the proprietor of the manufactory, is said to be in the employ of Messrs. Hitchcock & Co., a New York firm, dealing in munitions of war. His satablishment has long been considered dangerous to the neighborhood, though, of course, no such fearful catastrophe as this was ever anticipated. We are informed, however, that no less than three explosions and already taken place, in one of which he was personally injured. At the time of this disastrous effair he escaped providentially, having, just before the accident, gone into his dwelling house, which stands at a distance of about fifty yards from the manufactory. It was also extremely fortunate that the whole complement of hands were not in the building at the time, or the loss of life would probably have reached a much higher number.

As the proprietor of the manufactory is the only erson able to give a correct list of the dead and sounded, we were unable to obtain, at the late hour of our arrival at Ravens wood, anything like an estimate of the number of the dead. It seems to be retty generally allowed, however, that the number has been somewhat exaggerated. So far as we were able to learn, on careful inquiry, not more than fifteen persons were actually killed. Several others lie in a precarious situation. The deceased were, for the most part, Irish. Among them were the following:-

John Malcolm. Thomas O'Brien. Mary Malcolm. Matthew Manneban. Matthew Ryan.

Most of the bodies have been removed, one or two to the New York Hospital, some to Blackwell's Island, and many remain under the care of their relatives at Ravenswood.

known and it is not likely that it will ever be ascer tained. The people of the village censure Mr. French severely for no employing a greater degree of cau tion in his dangerous manufactory, and especially for not appointing a judicious and expe rienced superintendent over his juvenile work. nen, many of whom were of tender years, some of them being under twelve, and only two or three adults among them, if we are rightly informed. Several of the Irish residents of the place became shortly after the occurrence, quite riotous on the sub ject, and one was heard to threaten to "string up" Mr. F. Perhaps, in consequence of these threats that gentleman, with his family, have left the place

may be conceived when we say that every dwellinghouse in the immediate neighborhood was shaken almost to their foundations. Rev. Mr. Waite, an copal clergyman, having a pastoral charge in the place, and residing near the manufactory, wa forced to remove with his family to a neighbor's louse, some distance off, to obtain shelter from the inclement weather, every window in his own dwelling being blown completely out. All the dwellings in the vicinity were in the same state. Curiously enough, a stage happened to be passing at the time of the explosion, and the concussion was so great that the glasses in the windows on one side were

We are told that had the megazine, situated at a short distance from the main building, ame ignited, the consequences would have been tween two and three tons of powder.

Fortunately for the poor sufferers, me was instantly at hand, and everything was done that professional skill could devise.

Theatrical Emeute in Boston.

GRAND CORPS DE TREATRE ALA PRIZE RING.

[From the Boston Mail, Jase 27] As we informed our readers our Thursday afternoon, quite a sprinted little scene was emacted behind the scenes at the Howard Athenaum on Wednesday night, at the conclusion of the performances, which, like many of the plays produced at that establishment, has not the justification of originating in truth. The illustrious stage manager assumed the part of heavy man"—the low comedian was "cast" for the unoffending and persecuted victim, and a lady of the establishment took upon herself the authorship of the fray, h is Lady Macbeth. We give the story as we heard it. On Wednesday light the house was rather "elim," and the actors were desirous of "hurrying up their cakes," and leaving the cold and cheerless house. The lady who appears as the instigator of the plot was on the store, and was, what in theatrical parlance, is called "gagging." Her weak attempts at wit did not win the approbation of the stock, and the low comedy man politely requested her to leave the stage. This gentle reproct was not relished by the lady, and some reproachful words passed between her and the comedy man.

When the farce was coaclused, the autors and actresses were assuming their respectable garb of citizen-hip, and whilst the low comedy man was in his peculiarly perplexing predicament, the stage manager approached him and demanded why he had "called his woman a strumpet?" This the low comedy man indignantly denied. But the "heavy" stage manager would not accept the denial, and accompanying his doubt with an epithest which vulgar men apply to a male child of a semale dog, he struck him fair on his frontis, and repeated the blow several times. Some of the company succeeded in taking him off the prostrate comedian, and act one of the pay terminated.

In a short time afterwards the "heavy" man was so well pleased with his own performance that he

taking him off the program could be play terminated.

In a short time afterwards the "heavy" man was so well pleased with his own performance that he wished for a second representation of the play. To this the comedy man had strong objections, but would have been compelled to come out a second time had it not been for the interference of the "gas man," who opportunely presented himself, and gave the "heavy!" man a lesson or two in astrology—or star seeing. Here the matter rested until Thursday star seeing.

part, complianced to the sample of the City of Boston, the following fashion:—

To the Justice of the Police Court of the City of Boston, supins and for the County of Suffolk.—Charles W. Hant, of the city of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, commedian, in be alf of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, on oath complains that Robert Jones, of said Boston, stage unanager, on the twenty fifth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thou and eight hundred and fifty four, at Boston aforesaid, with force and arm, in and upon said Hunt, in the peace of sail commonwealth then and there were the said that the said t

About the same time this complaint was being made in the police court, the stage manager and gasman tested their abilities in the "heavy" line. For his interference on the previous evening, the latter individual was discharged from the theatre, which proceeding he did not much reliak and took the liberty of giving the manager a feeling rebuke for having ordered his discharge. He met aim in Howard street, when the two had a lively and spirited encounter (a la Hyer and Sullivan) which resulted in the stage manager finding his cranium protrucing through the window of a quack doctor, and his probasis being suddenly attacked with a severe and painful swelling. He did not rubb this part of the fun any more than the low comedy man did the part he was compelled to take on the previous avening, and entered the following complaint in the police court:—

he to a said court

The finale of this affair is yet to come The episod
between the manager and the comedy man attracts
a host of spectators to the police court this morning
but as the last scene usual in such pieces was ne
represented, they left the room with some dissati
faction visible on their countenances.

action visible at their countenances.

The stage manager has probably promised never again to cast the low comedy man in so disagreeable actions that the curtain would

And tediousness the limbs and outward for wit,

And tediousness the limbs and outward flourishes.

We published in our yesterday's evening edition an account of a diagraceful affair among the attackés of the Howard, which, for the credit of the profession, we could have wished to suppress.

One of the parties, feeling siggrieved that his name has appeared in a connection so supremely ridiculous, wishes to give his own version of the affair, the space for which is hereby appropriated to him:—

DOGLET'S HOTEL JAR 27, 1854

MR. BRIDIAY—I noticed is this svening's edition of the Mail as as usels in reference to a "treesa" which coursed on Wellers ay night at the Howart Athera im between Kr. R. bert Jones stages manager, and myself. The facts as there stated are in the main correct. The publicity which occurs to the main correct. The publicity which box teem given to the matter seems to demand a nacre explicit statement of the whole affair from me. The

BROADWAY THEAVER.—The spectace of "The ateract of the Garges" is an sounced for "six nights ore, and positively no longer." It is to be given gain on Monday evening, together with "The Hope

favorite will return to the stage, and appear as "Con stance" in "the Love Chase." She is a pleasing comedy actress, and when she retired, three year since, was highly popular.

Barnun's Museum.—The indies can't spare Gen Tom Thumb at present, so he will remain moths week. He will give on Monday evening his clever poses, representing classic statuary. An excellent dramatic entertainment is also amounced.

BROADWAY MINAGERIE.—The great African lions the rhino ceros, the big elephant, the Siamese twins and many other wonderful curiosities, are to be seen at this establishment every day and evening. The lovers of natural history will be delighted.

BLITZ will give one of his capital entertainments at Stryvesant Institute on Monday evening. Blitz is a capital megician and a clever ventriloquist.

THE CHRISTY MINSTREES, No. 472 Breadway, continue to draw fine houses. Their selection for Monday night includes many popular ballads, and nearly all of then are new.

Wood's Minstrals.—Titis company remain as a constellation of fixed stars at No. 444 Broadway. Their new Jullien burlesque is one of the funniest things of the sort ever done in New York. THE BUCKLEY MINSTRESS, No. 539 Broadway have announced several nevelties for Monday Peruse their programme, and don't fail to go.

Political Intelligence

The Suffalo Republic, a free soil organ, which was the first journal read out of the party by the Washington Union, in commenting upon the removal of a national de-mocrat from effects make room for a free soiler, says.— This is salutary discipline. The democratic party will be strengthened and removated by compelling every hard shell who holds office under the administration to "walk the plank." The New Orleans Courier, a rabid free soil democrati

administration paper, pitches into every body and every-thing that has not upon it the Gabinet stamp. Here is an

thing that has not upon it the Gabinet stamp. Here is an extract from one of its articles:—

Had the President and Cabinet succumbed to the demands of the Laws, and the Growells, and the Sometts, and the whole horde of slood suckers that stood ready to appropriate all the officey to their own use, and to unlock the treasury for their own beceff, the administration could have sailed in smooth water, so far as those wor this might have been cancerned. It is because two Gabinet have been cancerned. It is the threat was uttored, and sought to be enforced, that they must be expelled from office. Never, in the history of the government, has there been a more abanaless personal and political war than that carried on during the last flour months against the members of the Cabinet. It has been a war of spoilsmen and planderers against homest and efficient administrators of the public affairs.

The Sentinel and Advertises, a cool whig paper in Jersej

The rowest, and confiding, and Union-loving American people, who railied to the election of Franklin Pierce, as the oncean champion of the constitution, find now that they have been grossly imposed upon, and made the vic time of as dexterous a parofaced fraud as ever was perpe

The Detroit Free Press in a hard worker to the field of the free soil democracy, as the following specimen of its

labor will prove:—

General Purse is a democrat and a statement of the Jackson school. Starting with the motto of school triggito no wrong, and exacting mething that is not clearly right, with a men of transee dant ability at the head of the state Department, he could not fail in his foreign policy. And not only has been of failed in it, out, to the extent of its development, so theroughly American has it been that it commence universal applicate.

The Mobils advertiser, whig is not bind to the free soil proclivities of the advantation, and thus could's asserts.

The Democratic State Convention of Rhode I-land is called to meet at the State House, in Providence, on Thursday evening, Feb. 9.

Police Intelligence.

ARREST GF A HOTEL THIEF—NUMEROUS COATS AND CLOADS RECOVERED—OWNERS WANTED. On Friday afternoon, a German of genteel appear

ANOTHER GREAT CONFLAGRATION.

ENTIRE BLOCK OF BU LOINGS DESTROYED.

Large Number of Poor Families Bondbrod

We have still another terrible con cord. About 11½ o'clock last night famor very liscovered issuing from the Columbian foundry and machine shop, situated on letsachine shop, situated on lots numbered 43, 45 and 47 Duane street, between Eim and Centre. The buildings occupied the entire centre of the blackwe may say the entire block, with the exception of rows of small frame and brick tenements on Centre and Pearl streets, and a few buildings on Eim-

Before the ffremen could reach the vicinity the flames had spread with such rapidity as to render all efforts to save the foundry useless, and at a quarter before twelve the roof fell in, and all was converted into burning ruins.
Shortly after the fire communicated to Nos. 39,

394, 41, 43 and 45, small wooden shantles, on Centre street, occupied by S. L. Gerrit, wat:kmaker and jeweller; B. Lunny, clothing store, and a large number of poor families. At half-past twelve there was nothing left of these buildings. The brick building adjoining the above premises, No. 47, was occupied by P. Henry, liquor dealer, and several poor families. The walls of this house

fell about one o'clock. The old fashioned brick house on the Centre and Pearl, the lower floor of which was occupied by A. Bohle, grocer, and the upper part by

amilies, was partially destroyed.

The Sixth Ward Hotel, a large three story brick building, on the corner of Centre and Duane streets, was on fire several times, but owing to the exertion of the firemen no material damage was experienced.

The building adjoining the hotel, No. 43 Danne

ters; F. D. Bryant, clockmaker; C. L. Chevalier's, dental instrument manufactory, and others. This house, with most of its contents, was destroyed. The soap factory in the rear of the buildings at the corner of Elm and Pearl streets was des-troyed. This factory was one of the oldest in the

street, was occupied by Turner & Law, glass cut-

The following buildings on Pearl street caught fire and were considerably damaged:—No. 515, occupied by Dr. Preterre; No. 517, the Mistletoe-Bough; No. by Dr. Preterre; No. 517, the Misussor Duag, 519, W. Carter's; No. 521, Mr. Seeley, beer pump maker; No. 523, German apothecary; No. 525, S. Alus, boot and shoe maker. In addition to the persons above named, these buildings were te

The ruins were still burning at three o'clock, but no lear was apprehended that the fire would extend beyond the block.

Though the loss of property by this calamity is very great, the sum is but a mere trifle when we take into consideration the terrible suffering of the poor people who were rendered homeless. Many of them lost the larger portion of their household goods, in addition to being driven from beneath their roofs at the dead hour of night, with the thermo eter ranging at sixteen degrees above zero. The atmosphere was intensely cold; and the ing cinders and sparks a distance of several blocks. most heart'elt emotions upon the agonizing scene: the despair and suffering depicted in the con nances of those robbed of their homes, and the lamestations of the thinly clad children, as the plercing North wind enfolded them in his shivering

be witnessed to be realized—it cannot be described.

Had it not been for the suffering above alluded to the razing of many of the buildings would doubtless have been looked upon as rather fortunate than othdilapidated that it is only a matter of surprise had so long stood the test of fire and weather. on the site of the ruins.

STILL ANOTHER LARGE FIRE.

At a quarter before two o'clock the bells rang another alarm of fire in the Seventh district and on hastening to the Battery our reporter fou flames. This stable was composed of a brick front and frame sides, and the stalls were rented by dif. ferent persons owning horses. Ii was soon

The fire soon extended to the adjoining brick front dwelling house, No. 12, owned by Mrs. Seeley, and occupied by families. This house was mostly destroyed. It thence spread to No. 10, the upp stories of which were consumed.

The last named houses were occupied by about ery at the time our reporter left, at three o'clock this morning, was strewn with furniture and house hold goods, among which women and children were in the extreme, and well calculated to me the most hardy and weather beaten shudder.

The lateness of the hour rendered it impe procure full particulars in season for to-day's paper.

Yesterday morning, about three o'clock, a out on Essex street, between Hest r and Grand very abort time consumed the framework b

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN CINCINNATI-